

Tall Fescue

General

Tall Fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*) is a moderate to coarse bladed, heavy-duty grass that tolerates a wide range of soil and shade conditions and has excellent heat, drought and wear tolerance. Tall fescue grows rapidly and requires frequent mowing in the spring and fall but does not tolerate a close cut. Tall Fescue has a bunch type growth habit.

Tall Fescue is often mistaken for Crabgrass. They are slightly different as Crabgrass leaf blade is smooth, sparsely hairy at collar, the sheaths are compressed, often tinged with purple, where as Tall Fescue is strongly veined, rough edges on the leaf blades, and the sheaths are not compressed, reddish below ground.

What to do

Until recently, the only way to eliminate the ugly clumps of tall fescue from your lawn was to dig them out or spot-treat with a non-selective herbicide (Round-Up) that left unsightly brown patches for weeks.

We now have a product on the market that is made to control Tall Fescue effectively.